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DISC 3. 102-1523

CLASSIFICATION

DATE 18 December 1950

TO : Chief, Foreign Division

FROM : Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Attention:

SUBJECT: ~~German~~ Operational

~~German~~ Society of Rumanian Germans Abroad

REF: ~~German~~ 3575, ~~German~~ 3590, ~~German~~ 3045

1. The attached letter was submitted by [redacted] and consists of a letter from Herwart [redacted] to [redacted] informing him of the establishment of Subject Society. We have no direct contact with Scheiner, and no intention of using him in any way, but through his friendship with G. [redacted] we sometimes hear of his activities. There have been some rumors to the effect that Scheiner has been in contact with the British and with a local [redacted] group.

2. The description of Scheiner's trip to Rome is interesting because of the references to several well-known Rumanian personalities, together with Scheiner's guesses as to their activity.

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Distribution:
3- [redacted] w/att.
1- [redacted] w/att.
1- [redacted] w/att.
2- [redacted] w/att.

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possess individually German citizenship. In contrast to the Banat Saxons and the Siebenburger Sachsen, they scarcely have family ties in Rumania. Thus they are eligible to receive compensation from the German state for possessions which they left behind in their native land. After their settlement became final, their interest for their homeland was practically completely extinguished. For example, the inhabitants of Buchenland, mainly manual laborers, small businessmen and minor officials have for the most part in the course of the past ten years drifted back into their original occupations and therefore do not see any reason for beginning all over again for a third time in Rumania, should the opportunity present itself. Only the farm element among them, which is, however, twenty per cent at the most, would under certain conditions be prepared to return to Rumania, but then not to Bukovina, which suffered relatively heavy damages during the war and later under Soviet occupation, but would rather go to the Banat or the Siebenburgen. Thus the resettled, refugee and displaced Volksdeutsch Rumanians lead a separate existence, split as they are into many groups and individual bands, to which the variety of organizations of fellow countrymen each with their individual interests bear an eloquent witness.

The Society of Rumanian Germans Abroad is working against these divergent tendencies and wants to rally the people, regardless of their present adopted homeland, their family origins or historical development, to the recognition of their common fatherland, Rumania, and to urge active cooperation with the Rumanian elements in exile.

This objective will also be included in the statutes, Article 2, subparagraph 5 and will be promoted in all future publications. In this respect, the Society of Rumanian Germans Abroad is basically distinguished from other previous organizations of Rumanian Volksdeutsch.

Carrying out the task which we have set for ourselves will, of course, not be easy. Difficulties arise now caused by the split within Rumanian emigrant circles. Then too, we have not been able to get access to the various groupings of them. In West Germany and Austria only the two groups of former Legionnaires and General Ion Gheorghe's group came out in public, as far as I know. Under these circumstances I have cultivated principally the contact with General Gheorghe's group and in the above indicated sense I have tried to make use of their publication "Patria" for achieving my ends. However, to the extent that it seemed necessary, I have not completely terminated relations with the Legionnaire group. Their official chairman, Dr. Constantin Surcu, former city librarian from Kronstadt is an old acquaintance of mine, with whom I meet from time to time. (Recently it was rumored that Laforêt "pitched his tent" in Munich as representative of the "Rumanian People," but I have up to this time noted nothing to that effect). The above mentioned relationships should however be in no way construed to mean that I am personally, or that the Society of Rumanian Germans Abroad is connected with one or both of these groups for better or for worse, so to speak. It is clear not only to me, but also to the other members of the Society that Rumania can be freed only with the aid of the Western powers, and above all by the USA, and that as a result of this, we should seek to cooperate with those circles who enjoy the confidence of the aforementioned powers and will form the future government-in-exile. We

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We want to put ourselves at their disposal and to consult with them and to promote the rebuilding of our country. In order to attain this goal, the tremendous fear of our people of acknowledging themselves publicly to the West must be overcome. The first duty of the Society, therefore, is an educational one. This fear is not only a result of penalties which many of our people had to assume for their former acknowledgement of Germany, but, first of all, the result of the consideration that an acknowledgment of the West could result in reprisals for their families who are still in Rumania.

Therefore, our work will not be easy. It will be made difficult by the activities of other organizations of our countrymen, who are sponsored by religious or political institutions. In this respect, the difficult problem for our Society is the collection of funds, for our people, in their overwhelming majority live under such dire circumstances, that we could count on only very modest contributions. Above all, it will be important that the influential circles of the Rumanian Emigration and the Western Powers manifest a sincere interest in the Society and its objectives.

Aside from myself, the following compatriots can be identified as founding members of the Society:

1. Hans Ewald Frauenhoffer, Eschelbach/Ilz 34, Kreis Pfaffenhofen/Ilm
2. Franz Durrbeck, Gaisach-Ruchen 24a 1/2, Kreis Bad Tolz
3. Jakob Wirth, Parsdorf 2, Post Feldkirchen bei Munchen
4. Konrad Spindler, Munchen 66, EW Siedlung 11/4
5. (Dip. Ing.) Hermann von Larcher, Hussdorf-Uberfilzen/Immo
6. Erhard Plagch, Rechtsanwalt, Munchen 66, Wohnsiedlung Ludwigshof, Haus 9 b/c
7. Hans von Kuales, Rechtsanwalt, Freilassing, Sonnenfeld 23
8. Stefan Schmitt, Lehrer, Haldemang, Kreis Kempten

As you can see from these names, which are as well known to you as to me, the three settlement areas, Banat, Batmar and Siebenburgen were represented in founding the Society. I am confidently hopeful that Dr. Rudolf Kuales, the influential representative of the Bukovinian emigrants will also take part. I have him in mind for the post of first Chairman, in order to eliminate in this manner the differences between Banat, Siebenburgen and the Siebenburger Sachsen, which from past experience are only too well known to us. Kuales at the same time will represent Austria, since he lived in the Galsammergut until a short time ago and his family still lives there. Further support for Austria is present in the person of Viktor Schmitt, who however cannot take part in the initial meeting, since for reasons that I cannot relate here in such a short space, he is still living under an assumed name.

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You asked me in your letter of 30 October to give you more details about the motives which led to the formation of the Society of Romanian Germans Abroad, and to tell you something about the aims which have been set. Also you are interested in the names of the people who founded the Society on 18 September 1950 in the Christliches Kasino in Munich.

I shall answer your queries in the following paragraphs, knowing full well that in the limitations of a letter, the subject cannot be fully exhausted.

As you know, various groups of the so-called ~~Volksdeutsche~~ ~~who today live outside the Iron Curtain~~ came at ~~various times~~ ~~under the most varied circumstances to their present new homes.~~ Theoretically, they are distributed over the entire globe and are compelled to adapt themselves to the conditions of that country in which, for the time being, they find themselves. As a result of this, there is a tendency to drift further and further from one another, and in the course of time, to become estranged from Rumania, their native country.

Most of our compatriots living in the West are luckily still in Europe - that is, generally speaking, and are distributed mainly in equal parts in Austria and the West German Republic. But even they fall into two different groups, who are growing farther and farther apart, pursue the most varied courses and lose more and more the former interest in their common homeland. A result of this is, among other things, the more and more detached contact with those Rumanians in exile, who limit themselves to a few personal contacts.

Aside from the group which I represent, there is as far as I know, no group which strives to cultivate a systematic and active cooperation with the Rumanian element. While those Rumanians in Germany enjoy the same privileges as citizens of the republic, they make an effort to become more and more a part of its social structure, as well as to take part in its party politics. To this goal they devote a great deal of their energy. On the other hand, those living in Austria are chiefly interested in becoming Austrian citizens because that is a prerequisite for inclusion in the local labor program and would be thus a prerequisite for a livelihood. Because about 80% of our people are farmers and since there is neither in Austria nor in Germany the necessary farmland for their eventual settlement, those who are in favor of mass migration overseas do not hesitate to break their minds. These efforts to emigrate are nourished further by fear of a possible overrunning of Europe by Russian troops.

The following also added to the above breach:

The Germans of Bessarabia, Bukovina and Dobruza were resettled officially ten years ago and they, in their overwhelming majority, now

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Nevertheless, he is a pillar of the Society and in the future will be one of the most active members. Abroad we will be represented by Dipl. Ing. Dr. John P. Jones, now in the USA.

Health
To answer your question about the results of my Italian trip, I can assure you that it was rewarding. I met a number of people who seemed very interested in me. Among them was, first of all, the former Romanian Captain John P. Jones, who married a Siebenburger Sachsen, who was a very good friend of mine, and who, if I am not mistaken, represents the cultural group of North America in Rome. Papan made an excellent impression - brought about an understanding of the Romanian migrants and the Italian with the help of the Greek-Catholic mission, which is the representative of the Greek-Catholic mission to the Vatican in Austria. He is dissatisfied with his present duties and is anxious to take a more active part in the Romanian cause. I am in contact with him and his wife. Secondly, there is the priest Miller, who seems to me to be a first-class priest, is a priest without a doubt, though, he plays a considerably important role over and above the sphere of the Legionnaires.

Presd
The group with whom I was in Italy consisted mostly of Legionnaires, and it is well that I had the opportunity to get to know better George Macoveanu, Professor Grigore and the wife of Macinski, Jr. and to renew the acquaintance with Dr. Theodorescu from Stuttgart. The experiences with Macoveanu and Grigore assured me that a sincere cooperation with the Legionnaires could scarcely be achieved if at all. Dr. Theodorescu however, must have laid the groundwork in the interest of the Romanian Emigration. I was happy to see Macoveanu again in Rome. He is the leader of the "Tara", which meantime has arrived, and which I know already from Bucharest. He planned to emigrate to the USA. Macoveanu from Freiburg seems to be a very valuable element.

German
Immediately upon my return from Italy Hans Andriewitsch (Vienna IX, Brunnerstrasse 5) arrived at my home and put me in contact with Dr. Edward Reintz, Miss, Kellerstrasse 11, the representative of the Siebenburger Sachsen living in the Bundesrepublik, in the recently established Union of Displaced Persons, Former German Minorities of Europe, with headquarters in Geneva. A copy of the minutes of the southern meeting, which Andriewitsch gave me for personal use, is enclosed. Andriewitsch expressed himself in the vein that he as well as Dr. Reintz was not in agreement with the attitude of the Society of Siebenburger Sachsen in Germany and that they and others would for this reason turn to me. I did not give him a definite answer. In the first place, I don't think much of a general representation of the German Minorities of Europe in Geneva on the basis of experiences after the First World War, but prefer the direct contact (in our special case) with the Romanians. Secondly, however, I am still not clear about the background of this Union. Andriewitsch is of the opinion, that USA circles stood behind it and gave me to understand that I, insofar as I would acquiesce, could also count on material contributions. For the time being I cannot test these statements. A thing that, however, seems quite serious to me is the fact that Andriewitsch up until a short time ago was still busily cooperating with Dr. Paul Fridolin Kellner.

(and perhaps still is working with him), and that Dr. Hoffmann according to my most recent information is the contact man between Prof. Kierulff and the Soviet ambassador in Berlin, Senjougou. Since, however, I consider it entirely possible that Androvitsen is the confidence man for Dr. Hoffmann in this union, indeed, that this union could be a Soviet discovery, with whose aid the confidence between the various groups of Volksdeutsche living in the West and the German, Hungarian, Czech and other emigrant circles is to be undermined, I have Androvitsen an indefinite answer. Nevertheless, it would be necessary in conjunction with this Union, to meet personally with Dr. Kierulff as soon as possible. Unfortunately both money and time are lacking for me to do that.

And so, my friend, I hope I have instructed you to your satisfaction. Of course, I must ask you to keep my information in strict confidence and I authorize you to use the same exclusively among your friends, thereby I hold you personally responsible for any misuse - In the case that you want to distribute the same at hand to your friends, for which I expressly give you permission I am enclosing a carbon copy in order to spare you the extra work. Please forgive the delayed answering of your letter and attribute it to my heavy volume of work.

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